LSA

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First Conjunct Agreement in Tunisian Arabic is an Illusion

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(Doron and Heycock 1999; Yoon 2015)

(Aoun et al. 2010:231)



First Conjunct Agreement:

(1) msa Sumar w-Sali left.3MSG Omar and Ali left.

(Moroccan: Aoun et al. 1994:207

Puzzles

The gender-matching requirement

- (2) a. $\{\text{zext} / \text{zexw}\}$ Ramia_F w- $\{\text{Azza}_{\text{F}} \text{ mab} \{\text{að}^{\{\}} \text{hom} \{\text{came.3FSG} / \text{came.3PL}\} R.$ and-A. together-3PL.CL Rania and Azza came together.
 - b. {*zert / zerw} Rarnia_F w-Sermi_M mab\að\fad\fa\fa\farthom {*came.3FSG / came.3PL} R. and-S. together-3PL.CL Rania and Sami came together.

(Supporting experimental data from Lebanese in Lorimor 2007)

Pronouns lift the requirement

3) {zext / zexw} hijja w-Sexmi_M mab Γað-hom {came.3FSG / came.3PL} she and -S. together-3PL.CL She and Sami came together.

Claims

- ✓ FCA in Tunisian never involves direct agreement with the first conjunct.
- ✓ When the first conjunct is a DP, FCA arises illusorily as the result of matching features from both conjuncts percolating to the &P level.
- ✓ When the first conjunct is a pronoun, the verb agrees with a BROAD SUBJECT binding that pronoun.

Agreement is with &P, not the first conjunct

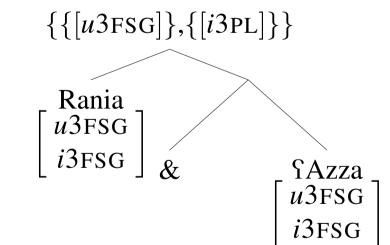
Feature Percolation to &P

(Adamson and Anagnostopoulou, submitted; Adamson, accepted)

- * Interpretable and uninterpretable features percolate from conjuncts to &P.
- * Only interpretable features undergo resolution (resolution = semantic process, cf. Grosz 2015).
- * Only unintepretable features are visible at PF (Smith 2015).

Same-gender nouns lead to illusory FCA

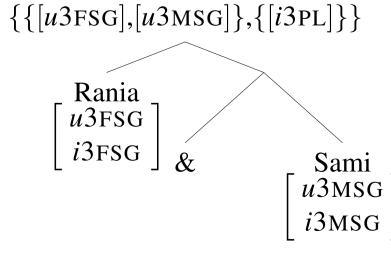
(4) Feature specification of &P with conjuncts matching in gender



→ Successful Vocabulary Insertion at the probe.

The gender-matching requirement is caused by a clash at PF

(5) Feature specification of &P with conjuncts mismatching in gender &P



 \rightarrow Morphological ineffability at the probe.

(Asarina 2011:9–12; Bjorkman 2016:74; Coon and Keine 2021:687–8)

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Acknowledgements

FCA with pronouns = Agreement with Broad Subject

Optionality in (3) is due to two underlying structures

(6) pro_i zert hijja_i w-Sermi (7) zerw $[_{\&P}$ hijja w-Sermi $]_{\phi_{3PL}}$ came.3FSG she and-S. She and Sami came. She and Sami came.

Properties of Broad Subjects

* Pronouns license Broad Subjects

Rainia $\int \Re ar^*(-ha)$ $t^{\Re}will$

R. hair*(-3FSG.CL) long sentential predicate

Rania has long hair. (lit. 'Rania her hair long.')

* Broad Subjects can trigger agreement

(9) Ramia {kemət / kem} ffar-ha tfwirl R. {was.3FSG / was.3MSG} hair-3FSG.CL long.MSG

Rania had long hair.

Claim: Agreement between AUX and BROAD SUBJECT shows that the latter is not a dislocated element, which can't trigger agreement (pace Landau 2009, 2011; Alqarni and Alanazi 2023).

* Broad Subjects can only be merged in sentences containing a co-referential pronoun

(10) Ra:nia_i {ze:t /*ze:w} hijja_i w-Se:mi R. {came.3FSG /*came.3PL} she and-S. Rania and Sami came (*lit*. 'Rania came she and Sami.')

(11) * Ramia $_i$ zert Ramia $_i$ w-Sermi R. came.3FSG R. and-S.

–XBIND──

Additional Evidence: Sandwiched Agreement

- (12) Lexical DPs and pronouns behave differently in sandwiched configurations
 - a. {*ke:nət / ke:nu} Ra:nia_F w-\Gamma-\Gam
 - b. {keɪnət / keɪnu} hijja w-SAzza iʒiːw l-əl-faːk koll nhaːr {was.3FSG / were.3PL} she and-A. come.3PL to-DEF-university every day.
- (13) Broad subject can be merged onto (12b) and forces agreement with itself

Ramia_i {kemət /*kemu} hijja_i w- Γ Azza iziw l-əl-fark koll nham R. {was.3FSG / were.3PL} she and-A. come.3PL to-DEF-university every day

Rania, she and Azza used to come to campus every day. (cf. Aoun et al. 1994:209, ex (31))

- (14) Two underlying structures for (12b)
 - a. $\frac{1}{pro_i}$ keinət $[\frac{1}{\&P}$ hijja_i w- $\frac{1}{Azza}]_{\phi 3PL}$ iziw 1-əl-fark koll nharı $\frac{1}{pro_{B.S}}$ was. 3FSG she and A. come. 3PL to-DEF-university every day
 - b. keinu $\begin{bmatrix} & & \\ & & \\ & & \end{bmatrix}$ hijja_i w- $\{Azza\}_{\phi 3PL}$ iziw 1-əl-fark koll nharr were. 3PL she and A. come. 3PL to-DEF-university every day. She and Azza used to come to campus every day.
 - 15) Only one underlying structure for (12a)

keinu [&P] Rainia_F w- \P Azza_F $]_{\phi 3PL}$ iziw 1-əl-faik koll nhair were.3PL R. and-A. come.3PL to-DEF-university every day

Rania and Azza used to come to campus every day.

Outstanding issues: • Crucial order of conjuncts: Broad Subjects cannot be resumed by pronominal second conjuncts. This order is not crucial for left-peripheral elements. • Elusive properties of Broad Subjects: The existence of a pronominal variable is a necessary but not sufficient condition (cf. Yoon's (2009) 'characteristic property' for Korean major subjects).

How the Broad Subject triggers agreement

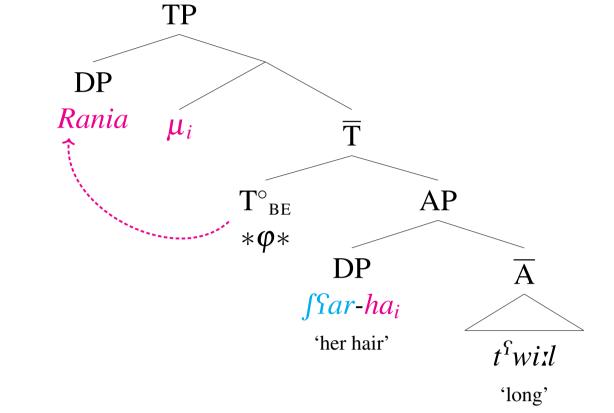
Proposal: Broad subjects are base-generated in specifiers of ϕ -probes and bind a resumptive pronoun *via* a μ Binder Prefix (Büring 2005; Hewett 2023a, 2023b), triggering Predicate Abstraction (Heim and Kratzer 1998).

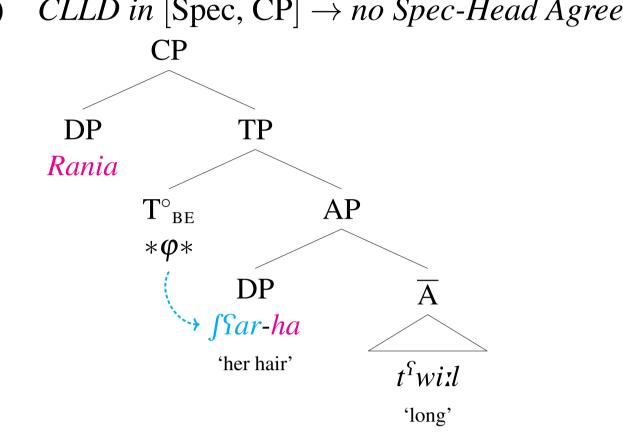
Specifier-Head agreement under Binding (Kratzer 2009:196)

When a DP occupies the specifier position of a head that carries a λ -operator, their ϕ -feature sets unify.

 \hookrightarrow Application on (8):

(16) Broad Subj. in [Spec, TP] \rightarrow Spec-Head Agreement (17) CLLD in [Spec, CP] \rightarrow no Spec-Head Agreement





Prediction \rightarrow **Locality of Broad Subject to** ϕ **-probe:** No Broad Subject if thematic subject moves to [Spec, TP].

(18) $\begin{bmatrix} CP & Ra:nia \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} TP & Sar-ha \end{bmatrix}$ {*ke:nət / ke:n} $\begin{bmatrix} AP & STar-ha \end{bmatrix}$ the sum of the sum of

Rania's hair was long.

Patterns of agreement with and without Broad Subjects

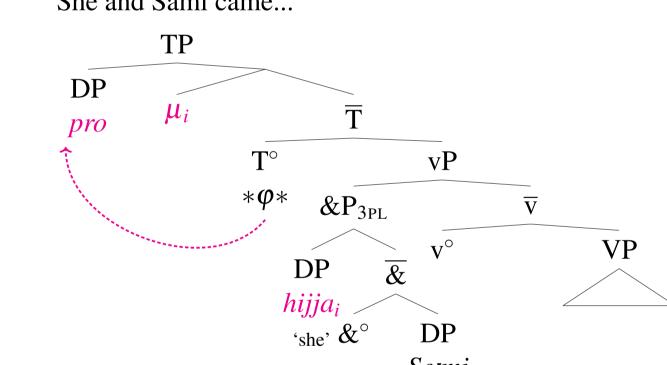
Broad Subject merged in [Spec, TP]

(19) One agreement target

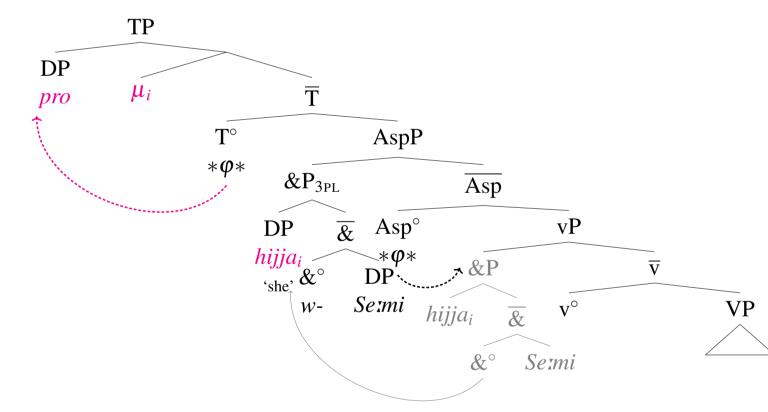
gest hijja w-Sesmi

came.3FSG she and-S.

She and Sami came...

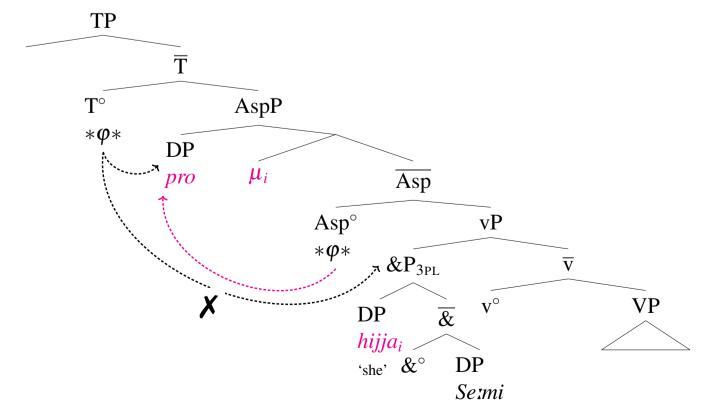


(20) Two mismatching agreement targets kernət hijja w-Sermi jzirw was.3FSG she and-S. come.3PL She and Sami used to come...



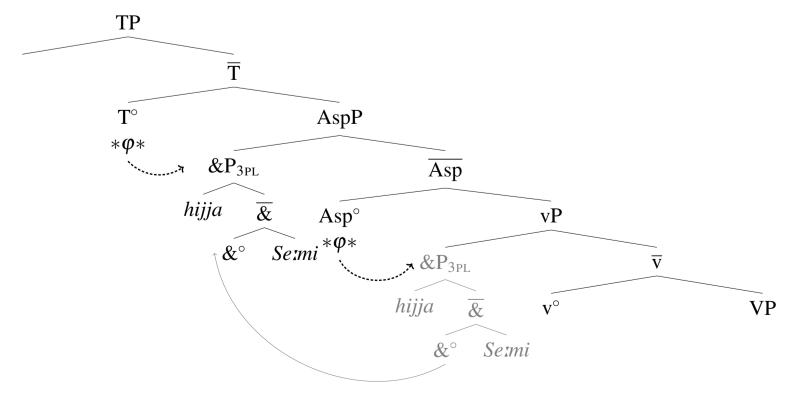
Broad Subject merged in [Spec, AspP]

(21) Two matching targets agreeing with broad subject {ke:nət /*ke:nu} tʒi: hijja w-Se:mi {was.3FSG / *were.3PL} come.3FSG she and-S. She and Sami used to come...



No Broad Subject

(22) Two matching targets agreeing with narrow subject keznu hijja w-Sezmi izizw were.3PL she and-S. come.3PL She and Sami used to come...



Contributions

- ✓ Empirical contribution to the landscape of FCA patterns.
- ✓ Consistent analysis for conjunct agreement with calculus at &P level being the same: Peculiarity of pronouns captured by their ability to be variables. ✓
- ✓ Support for the existence of Broad Subjects in Arabic as distinct from CLLD (cf. A-resumption: Rezac 2008; Hewett 2023b).
 ✓ A novel analysis of Broad Subjects in Arabic *via* binding.

Select References: Adamson L. accepted. Split Coordination with Adjectives in Italian; Adamson L. & Anagnostopoulou E. submitted. Gender Features and Coordination in Greek; Asarina A. 2011 Neutrality vs. Ambiguity in Resolution by Syncretism; Aoun et al. 1994. Agreement, Word order, and Conjunction; Bjorkman B. 2016. Go get, come see: Morphological Restrictions and Syncretism; Buring D. 2005. Binding Theory; Coon J. & Keine S. 2021. Feature Gluttony; Doron E. & Heycock C. 1999. Filling and Licensing Multiple Specifiers; Hewett M. 2023a. Types of Resumptive Adependencies; —2023b. A-Resumption in Arabic; Kratzer A. 2009. Making a Pronoun; Landau I. 2009 Against Broad Subjects in Hebrew; Lorimor H. 2007. Conjunctions.